

COMPLETING PLAN FOR TRIP TO POLE

Wellman Accepts Weather
Expert as Companion.

EXPEDITION DISCUSSED

Old Hands at Arctic Region Charac-
teristics Give Views of the
Coming Venture.

The Wellman polar expedition received a great boost yesterday in the selection of Major Henry B. Hersey, of the United States Weather Bureau of Milwaukee, Wis., to accompany Mr. Wellman on his trip to the pole. If Secretary Wilson approves Major Hersey will doubtless "sail" as the official representative of the United States Weather Bureau and be second in command.

He is a well-trained meteorologist, having been in the Government weather service at various stations, including Ithaca, N. Y., for the past twenty years.

Although over forty-four years of age and single he is still possessed of the same venturesome spirit which carried him from his office at the weather station in 1898 to observe the storms of Mars in the Spanish-American war. Hearing of the latest polar expedition he came on to Washington and after an interview with Mr. Wellman was accepted to participate in the details of a start from Spitzbergen in "the land of mountains and glaciers, of splintered peaks and icy bays."

Praised by Chief Moore.

In discussing Major Hersey Chief Moore, of the Weather Bureau, spoke highly of him this morning, and said that if his proposed trip is approved by Secretary Wilson the Major will have full charge of the observations to be made for the Weather Bureau. "Major Hersey is a native of Vermont," continued Mr. Moore, "and is well trained for the task before him."

In considering the outlook for the success of the expedition, Mr. Moore said: "It is a hazardous undertaking, but with the improvements made in aerial navigation since the Andree expedition it seems quite possible that the feat may be performed. The extremely low temperature in the polar regions need not cause worry, as that should be counted an advantage if anything. It will give the balloon greater buoyancy, because the air is denser."

"If they launch their ship from Spitzbergen, as they intend to do in July, they will get a wind directly favorable to flight to the pole. This July wind is a mild south-easterly breeze. Their flight, if taken in that region, during the month of July is more certain to prove long distance than if taken in this latitude. They would not have the violent local thunderstorms that we have here, and that would be encountered in a middle latitude."

Prof. Bell Interested.

Prof. Alexander Graham Bell, who has given much of his time and expended a considerable sum of money in studying and experimenting with kites to solve the aerial navigation problem, is much interested in the Wellman expedition. "I wish it success," he said last night to a reporter of The Times, "but I do not hesitate to say I consider the venture an extremely hazardous one. The encircling of Elisef Tower with one of Santos Dumont's dirigible flying machines was indeed a great feat. No doubt wonderful improvements have been made in aerial navigation since the day of poor Andree. The difficulty is to steer balloons in strong winds."

One of Prof. Bell's intimate friends, however, declared that it is no secret that Prof. Bell believes Dumont is on the wrong track for solving aerial navigation. "If Mr. Bell considered the dirigible balloon feasible," he continued, "you may count on it that he would not be taking up his valuable time with tetrahedral kites and bird-shaped contrivances. Prof. Bell knows, as do many others, that the big balloon is a big blunder in a wind of twenty or more miles' velocity."

"Of course we do not know what kind of a breeze blew in Andree's face as he tacked toward the pole. Scientists the world over, however, know that when 'Herr Andree' ascended from Dances Island on that ill-fated Sunday morning of July 11, 1897, with his companions, Fraenkel and Strindberg, the southerly breeze that carried him to his doom had a speed of twenty-two miles an hour. God help Wellman and Hersey if they expect to direct the movements of a big balloon in even such a breeze as that."

Nor was the opinion of Gen. A. W. Greely, who had a taste of the "ice bays" and a close personal contact with Arctic glaciers and splintered peaks, more optimistic. "I cannot tell you much about the Arctic expedition," he said in his office at the War Department, "but with regard to flying machines of the balloon species I hold today the same opinion that a balloon under stress does not hold its gas, as I did when I talked with Andree at the London geographical congress in 1895. I told him that there is as much difference between a balloon in the Arctic regions ready for work and that of one in a temperate climate, as between a horse standing quietly in a well-sheltered stable and one weathering it out in the rough fields. A balloon wherever you find it is like a baby, requiring the best of care, the greatest of attention."

"Do you think there is a chance of the Wellman party finding a trace of Andree?" asked the reporter, or even a chemical trace of his expedition?"

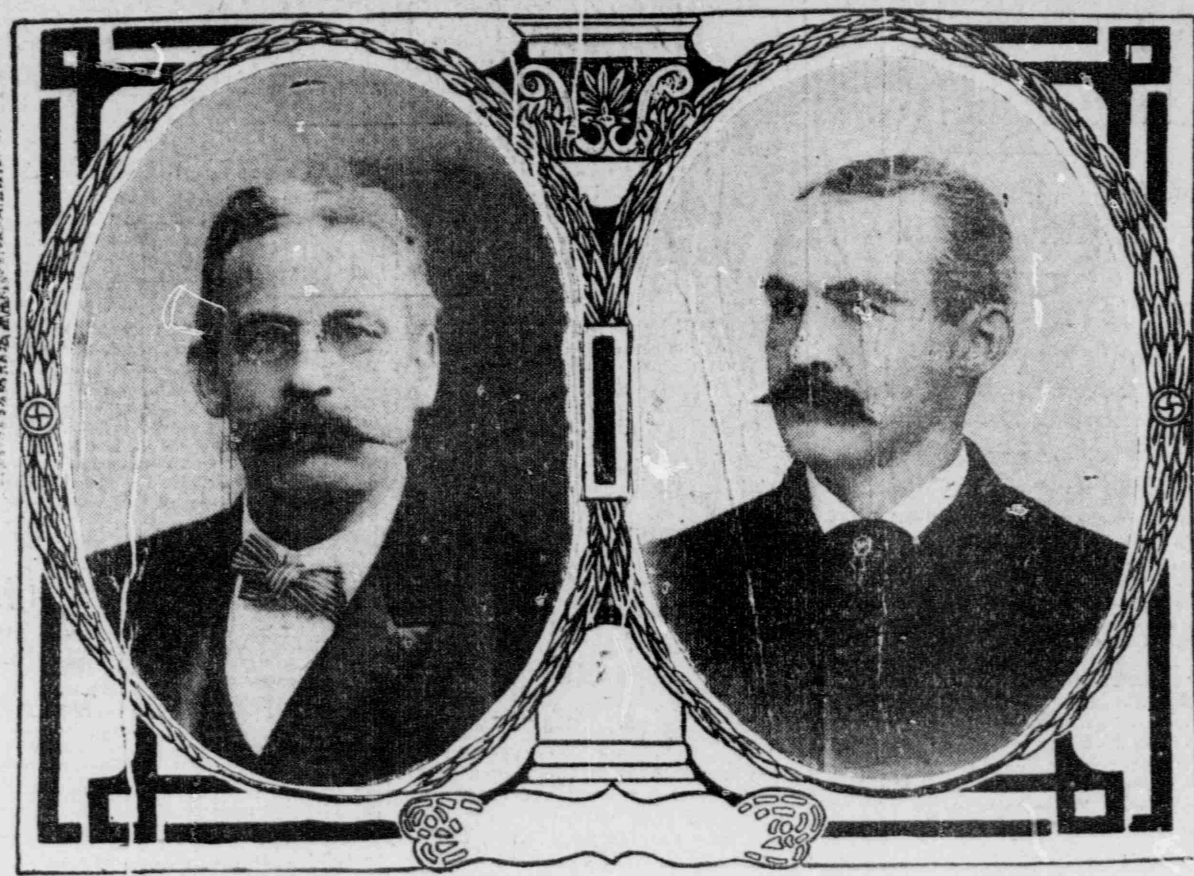
"I do not," answered the general laughing, "even considering the preservative feature of that climate. What chance of finding anything of Andree if he fell in the water? If on land, what would the Polar bears leave of him?"

**JUDICIAL DECISION
IN PECULIAR CASE**

Justice Barnard, of the Supreme Court of the District, held in the Cosgrove-Senay litigation that a seller is not compelled to furnish a purchaser with a list of the former's creditors before the purchase price has been paid.

Some time ago Hugh Cosgrove sold his bottling business to Henry J. Senay. The latter refused to pay the purchase money until a list of Cosgrove's creditors was furnished him. Cosgrove objected and the court sustained his contention.

COURAGEOUS EXPLORE'S TO SEEK ARCTIC REGION



Walter Wellman.

Maj. Henry B. Hersey.

Straps In Street Cars Menace to Passengers

Honeycombed With Germs, They Transmit
Disease and Cause Other Dangers and
Annoyances to Those Who Stand Up.

The announcement in The Times that Robert K. Cochrane, an Allegheny, Pa., politician, has been totally blind for several days from blood poisoning, which he believes he caught from a street car strap, has aroused considerable interest in medical and scientific circles in this city about the germ transmitting qualities of street car straps.

Eminent physicians have expressed frequently during the last few years that almost everything two or more people come in contact with is infested with bacteria, and many seemingly harmless pursuits have received a black eye. Yet the street car strap has avoided publicity until the present time, when authorities say it is almost at the head of infected armies.

Denounced by Wiley.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chief chemist of the United States, denounced the straps from a practical, as well as a scientific standpoint. He said:

"I have just returned from New Orleans, where a system has been adopted which does away with straps on street cars. The seats in the cars there are separated from each other by small partitions, and from each partition an upright metal rail is extended. These rails serve the purposes of straps, and are so much an improvement over the strap method now almost universally used, that I wonder companies in other cities do not adopt them."

"Every square inch of a street car strap is covered with germs, thousands and thousands of them. The bacteria are of almost every conceivable variety and there is no question about the straps being wonderful breeders of disease. The leather of which most of the straps are constructed is of a regular germ-catching variety. The surface is peculiarly adapted to holding the germs once they are lodged there, and I have never known anyone who ever heard of a strap being thoroughly cleaned, much less sterilized."

Transmission of Germs.

"Men of all classes ride in the street cars. Laborers who have been working in a sewer hang on to a strap alongside of a man who has been preparing bodies for burial in an undertaking establishment. The man with a sore on his finger or with a diseased hand is given access to the straps with the man who is physically sound."

"The germs may be easily transmitted by a small abrasion or cut in the hand. The flesh might be torn so slightly that a person would suffer no inconvenience or pain from the cut, yet the germs from the straps get through just such small cuts without the least difficulty. Another way may be by the straps swinging into the eyes, and the germs might render the victim totally blind."

"Other than from a sanitary standpoint, the straps are an unexcusable nuisance. They make themselves most annoying by striking people in the head and knocking their hats off."

"The metal posts, which are in vogue in New Orleans, besides being constructed of a metal that is not susceptible to germs or bacteria, are cleaned almost constantly by persons brushing their clothes against them. In this manner the germs which ordinarily would lodge on them are swept away."

Want Public Buildings.

The facts of the public building situation is that there is a chance that the House will pass such an appropriation bill if it is kept down to a limited figure. It will be the task of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds to throw out the unjust claims for the buildings and incorporate only those towns which are in urgent need of a building.

Such an undertaking will require much work, as there has been a veritable flood of public building bills introduced in the House since Congress opened. Naturally, every Congressman will want his district to get a slice of the money appropriated. Chairman Barnard will have his hands full putting the bill into final shape.

**DISTRICT JUDGES MAY
EXCHANGE PLACES**

Considerable interest is being taken by members of the local bar in the swing around the bench which will be made by the Justice of the Supreme Court of the District at the opening of the February term of the court.

It is rumored that Justice Wright, presiding in Criminal Court No. 1, will be assigned to Criminal Court No. 2, and that Justice Stafford, now the justice presiding in Equity Court No. 2, will be assigned to Criminal Court No. 2.

ARREST PITTSBURGH GAMBLERS.

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 6.—Detectives to-night captured six gamblers, who had rented quarters in the Hotel Lincoln, one of the best in the city. Detective Rice said the same gang carried advertisements in all the papers in large cities.

CHRISTMAS CANDLES CAUSE FIRE

An overturned Christmas tree with lighted candles on every branch was responsible for the blaze which caused \$20 damage in J. H. Hodgson's residence, 1433 New Jersey avenue north-west, shortly after 9 o'clock last night.

RIVERS AND HARBORS LIKELY TO GO BEGGING

Fact Elicited That Chances for an Ap-
propriation From Congress Are
Very Slim.

Two important facts were brought out in the House yesterday in the course of an eloquent speech made by Champ Clark, of Missouri, in favor of the pending Philippine tariff bill, which gives the Philippines a measure of free trade with this country. Mr. Clark said he favored the bill because it was a step in the right direction.

Mr. Clark elicited from the "leaders" of the Republican side of the House the information that the probabilities are that there will be a limited public buildings bill reported to the House and no rivers and harbors bill at all.

Met All Comers.

He was incessantly interrupted in his speech by Hepburn, Grosvenor, and Seney Payne. To all of them he made retorts replete with wit, sarcasm, facts, and repartee.

From General Grosvenor he obtained the admission that there will be no appropriation bill made this session for rivers and harbors improvements.

"You know," said Clark to Grosvenor, "because you gentlemen of the Committee on Rules boss this House." Then Grosvenor admitted there would be no rivers and harbors bill.

"How about the public buildings bill?" Clark asked Payne. Payne hesitated, and laughingly said he didn't need any public buildings in his district.

"That's the trouble," said Clark. "You've got yours!"

General Grosvenor said he knew nothing about the prospects for the bill, but that, if a bill like that of last year were brought into the House, he would vote against it.

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**BANCROFT COUNCIL
INSTALLS ITS OFFICERS**

Bancroft Council National Union held its regular meeting last evening at 514 Ninth street northwest.

The installation of officers elected for the ensuing year was under the direction of President of the Cabinet Charles T. Hendler, assisted by the following members of the cabinet: James A. Healey, vice president; J. D. Biddis, speaker; L. Nachman, usher; J. C. Burrill, ex-president; J. E. Borland, secretary; John Newman, chaplain; J. Burdine, doorman; and Elmer Johnson, sergeant-at-arms. Those installed were: President, H. C. Knapp; vice president, G. V. Selbold; ex-president, R. W. Kerr; speaker, F. V. Gardner; financial secretary, E. R. Knapp; secretary, H. H. Martin; chaplain, F. C. Campbell; usher, L. P. Randolph; sergeant-at-arms, W. T. Hendler; doorman, E. O. Patterson; Jesse B. K. Lee, president of McKimley Council, made a speech on fraternal insurance, followed by President of the Cabinet Hendler, J. D. Biddis, James A. Healey, and others.

The speaker of the council had arranged a repast of oysters, coffee, and cigars, which were served by the committee on entertainment, after which the council adjourned to meet on Friday, February 2.

**DEBATERS DECIDE
NAVY HAS ENOUGH SHIPS**

That the United States has no need for a larger navy was decided last night at the mid-winter debate of the junior class of the Georgetown Law School at Gaston Hall.

William C. Crawford and Charles M. Mattingly won over Frank P. Jenal and Daniel A. Lucy, the argument for the negative being that this country's interests were being well looked after at present, and the expense of an increased navy would be too great.

CHILD'S DEATH FROM DIPHTHERIA

Leroy Mattingly, five years old, died at his parents' home, 948 Twenty-seventh street, Georgetown, yesterday afternoon. Coroner Nevitt was summoned to the house and had a culture taken and ordered the child's remains placed in a sealed casket. Examination of the culture disclosed the fact that the lad died from diphtheria. Dr. Nevitt said the child had been treated for pneumonia a short time prior to its death.

WHITE HOUSE OAK FROM CZAR'S GARDEN

Reared From Acorn Sent by Imperial Gardener to Secretary Hitchcock—Seed Was From Stock of Tree Which Shadows Washington's Grave.

Secretary Hitchcock is doubtless "dashed over" by the success that has, at last, crowned his efforts toward securing a plant or sapling of an historic oak for the White House yard, upon which hangs a remarkable story.

Over a half century ago the Hon. Charles Sumner, while Senator from Massachusetts, sent to the Czar of Russia a present in the form of some acorns from an ancient oak which grew above and shadowed the old tomb of Washington at Mt. Vernon. The Czar had these acorns turned over to his head gardener at Peterhof, one of the imperial palaces, and the latter succeeded in raising therefrom one hardy sapling, which he planted on "Carina Island, forming part of the grounds of the Peterhof Palace, where it is a fine sturdy oak."

At the foot of this tree there is a tablet bearing an inscription in Russian, of which the following is a translation:

"The acorn planted here was taken from an oak which shades the tomb of the celebrated Washington; it is presented to his Imperial majesty, the Emperor of all the Russias, as a sign of the greatest respect—by an American."

Hitchcock Tries to Raise Oak.

In 1898, while American minister to St. Petersburg, Hon. Ethan Allen Hitchcock, now Secretary of the Interior, secured several acorns of this famous oak, which he sent to his home in New England, where they were planted. The acorn does not retain its vitality as well as other seeds, but Secretary Hitchcock was fortunate enough in securing several healthy saplings which are now growing and thriving handsomely and will in a few years attain a large size.

Wishing to supply the White House

yard with a sapling raised from these acorns, he, on April 6, 1894, caused one of the finest of the young trees to be shipped from his New Hampshire estate to this city, where, on arrival, it was planted in the lawn east of the west entrance of the White House by President Roosevelt, Secretary Hitchcock and Wilson assisting. Unfortunately for the young sapling something or other had gone amiss in the shipment, and instead of taking root and thriving it shriveled up and died.

President Disappointed.

Both the President and Secretary Hitchcock were very much disappointed over the failure of this sapling, but the latter resolved to try again, sending this time to the head gardener of the Imperial Palace at Peterhof, a request that he forward him some acorns of the famous oak on Carina Island. This was done, with the permission of the Czar, and two months ago the acorns arrived in sound, fresh condition, in a great package bearing Russian stamps and the Imperial seal, and were promptly turned over to Colonel Broadwell, of the Division of Public Buildings and Grounds, who lost no time in planting them in pots in the War Department greenhouses south of the White Lot.

Success at Last.

Since then Head Gardener Brown has tended them with great care and patience, with the result that yesterday he was able to give out a positive statement that at least two of the acorns had taken root and sprouted. One appears to be a little more vigorous than the other, and when seen yesterday by a Times reporter presented a strong, firm green sprout. As soon as these shoots have attained sufficient growth, they will be planted in the White House yard, in place of the sapling that died.

W. E. BAINBRIDGE PARIS TREASURY AGENT

Former Secretary of Legation at Peking
Goes to the French
Capital.

William E. Bainbridge, who was secretary of legation at Peking during the Boxer troubles, will return to the Government service, after a period of retirement, as chief agent of the Treasury Department, at Paris.

It was announced yesterday that Secretary Shaw has made this appointment. The place will be charged to Iowa, the Senators from that State having been interested actively in behalf of Mr. Bainbridge, who is a resident of Council Bluffs.

Post an Important One.

The Paris post is a very important one. The chief treasury agent there has general supervision over subordinates in France, Spain and Italy. The business of the post is to examine and issue invoices and bills of lading for goods that are to be shipped to the United States, assuring that the prices given are honest and fair. The Treasury has in recent years had a number of scandals, due to allegations of undervaluing imports. This practice is supposed to be corrected by proper management of the Treasury agencies abroad.

The last special agent at Paris was William H. Williams, who held the position for twelve years. He was transferred some months ago to a minor post in this country, the understanding being that the change amounted to a removal.

BENNINGTON HEROES HONORED BY BONAPARTE

Secretary of the Navy Awards Medals
and Gratitudes to Eleven
Men.

Secretary of the Navy Bonaparte has paid well merited honor to the enlisted men who proved themselves to be heroes in the accident to the gunboat Bennington last summer, when, in spite of their injuries and sufferings, they did all in their power to aid less fortunate members of the crew.

In a general order, the Secretary says it is difficult amid such a display of self-sacrifice and heroism, to select individual cases, but after careful consideration, the department has awarded a medal and a gratuity to each of eleven men.

This is the List:

The Roll of Honor.

John J. Clouse, chief gunner's mate; George F. Brock, carpenter's mate, second class; Edward Boers, seaman; Willie Cronan, boatswain's mate, third class; Raymond E. Davis, quartermaster of third class; Emil Freudenstein, water tender; Rude Griblich, seaman; William S. Shacklette, hospital steward; Oscar E. Nelson, machinist's mate, first class; Otto D. Schmidt, seaman; and Frank E. Hill, ship's cook, first class.

This applause by the Secretary for the bravery of the enlisted men follows immediately upon his decision that the court-martial sentences of Commander Young and Ensign Wade, in connection with the disaster that cost more than sixty lives, was not sufficiently severe.

EDUCATOR HANGS HIMSELF.

DARMSTADT, Grand Duchy of Hesse, Germany, Jan. 6.—Professor Dr. Chelius, head of the mining department of the Technical University here, who was convicted yesterday of criminal improprieties and sentenced to two years' imprisonment, hanged himself in prison to-day.

DR. MARSHALL'S CATARRH SNUFF

IT CURES

For 70 Years a Household Remedy

VETERAN BAFLED MEDICAL SCIENCE

By Surviving Wounds Generally Fatal.

DIES AT TREASURY OFFICE

Deceased Was Department Clerk at the
Time of His
Death.

Charles H. Smith, who at the age of sixteen years offered himself in defense of the Union, died yesterday at 2:39 p. m. while still in the service of his country. He entered the employment of the Government as a clerk in the stationery and printing division of the Treasury Department, and while at his desk at work quietly and without warning to his fellow workers, passed away.

When a boy only sixteen years old, in October, 1861, Smith answered a country's call for volunteers. He left his home in Decatur, N. Y., and was mustered in as a member of Co. 10th N. Y., Seventy-sixth New York Volunteers. He was on the front firing line in the never-to-be-forgotten battle of Gettysburg. In that bloody battle he was wounded four times, three times being pierced by bullets of the enemy and the fourth by the bursting of a shell above him as he lay helpless upon the battlefield.

Fought in Many Battles.

The other important battles of the civil war in which he took an active part were: Rappahannock Station, White Sulphur Springs, Gallatinsville, Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, Union, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Kellysford.

After the battle of Gettysburg Smith lay wounded upon the field of battle for four days without water or nourishment. He was then carried to McPherson's barn, where his wounds were dressed by the army surgeons. He was later carried to Gettysburg by agents of the Christian Commission. From there he was sent to the Citizens' Hospital in Philadelphia, and still later to Germantown, where he remained until the expiration of his term of enlistment.

The third bullet, which struck Smith on Gettysburg field, caused a very similar wound to those which caused the death of Presidents Garfield and McKinley. The reason he survived his injuries is attributed by surgeons to the fact that he was of a harder constitution than either Mr. Garfield or Mr. McKinley.

The deceased had one of the most remarkable histories ever brought to the attention of the medical world. He has lived for forty-two years in a condition which has no equal in medical science. After his fearful wound, and thought to be dying every minute, he recovered and for nearly a half century, to all outward appearances, he appeared a fairly well man. In 1888 he was examined by the Pension Committee of the House of Representatives, and at that time he was drawing a pension of \$12.50. After his examination the committee recommended a pension of \$75 a month, which was allowed.

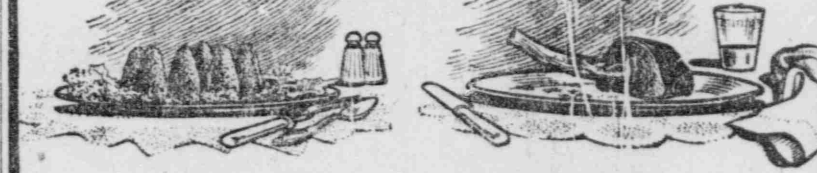
Coroner Nevitt's death certificate states that death resulted from acute indigestion and that for the last couple of months, the man had frequently been taken ill at his desk.

A. B. THORNTON'S FUNERAL. INTERMENT AT ROCK CREEK

The funeral of Alexander B. Thornton was held at his late residence, 1646 Newton street, today at 2 p. m. The Rev. Joseph F. McGee officiating. The pall bearers were selected from his associates in the Department. Mr. Thornton was of an old and highly respected New Bedford family, educated in the schools of his native State, and was engaged for a brief period in mercantile pursuits in Boston. During the civil war he served with credit in the United States army, and at the close of the war entered the service of one of the largest steamship lines in Galveston, Texas.

Through the influence of his brother, the late Pay Director Thornton, he came to Washington and obtained employment in the Treasury Department, where he rose to the rank of a bookkeeper, having charge of an important set of books in the warrant division of the Secretary's office. Of a genial, lovable nature, full of anecdote, and an interesting reminiscence, he was universally esteemed by all with whom he was associated, but who perhaps was loved as in his own family. He made a brave fight with an insidious disease, but finally was obliged to succumb. He is survived by his wife and three daughters. The interment was in Rock Creek Cemetery.

A French Family Can Live On What An American Family Throws Away



That piece of cold roast left over from dinner can be made appetizing if served with Armour's Extract of Beef. It adds that rich beefy flavor, lost when meats are warmed over.

Only the prime parts of the beef are used in making Armour's Beef Extract. That's why Armour's keeps in any climate and is always so rich in flavor and in quality.

Armour's is the beef extract par excellence.
Sold by all druggists and grocers.

Armour's Extract of Beef